



SENATE REPUBLICAN HIGH TECH TASK FORCE

108TH CONGRESS

TECHNOLOGY POLICY PLATFORM PROMOTING ECONOMIC EXPANSION BY ENABLING BUSINESS GROWTH

Chairman:

JOHN ENSIGN (NV)

Members:

WAYNE ALLARD (CO)

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Ex Officio:

JOHN MCCAIN (AZ)
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JOHN WARNER (VA)
ARMED SERVICES CMTE. CHAIRMAN

ORRIN HATCH (UT)
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- **Strengthening the Economy through Sensible Fiscal Policy**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

The HTTF will advocate a strong plan to modernize the tax code and promote business growth by advocating such things as repatriation of funds from the foreign subsidiaries of U.S. companies, a moratorium on mandating the expensing of stock options, making permanent the internet tax moratorium, accelerating the depreciation schedules for technology equipment and enhancing the expensing of broadband equipment to encourage deployment to currently unserved areas.

- **Enhancing Trade Opportunities for American Companies**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

The HTTF supports the creation of additional Free Trade Agreements that boost American jobs; will ensure that new trade agreements contain requirements that foreign governments adequately protect intellectual property from theft and supports policies which protect U.S. companies from unfair trade practices consistent with international commitments and obligations.

- **Protecting Americans from Unsolicited Commercial E-mail (“Spam”)**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

Unsolicited commercial e-mail or “Spam” is increasing exponentially. The HTTF supports efforts to reduce fraudulent, deceptive and pornographic Spam e-mail thereby cutting down on junk e-mail traffic congesting networks and stifling communications networks.

- **Fostering Emerging Technologies: Biotech and Nanotech ~ New for 2003**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

The Task Force will monitor and understand these burgeoning areas of technology and ensure that these sectors of technology are nurtured and allowed to flourish in the marketplace by encouraging appropriate funding levels and promoting a mechanism or process of technology transfer to the commercial marketplace

BUILDING AMERICA’S TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE OF TOMORROW

- **Promoting Education, Technology and Opportunity**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

America’s competitiveness is at risk without a workforce fully capable in math, science, and computing skills. The Task Force supports efforts to provide the workforce of tomorrow with the knowledge necessary to compete in a digital age. The Task Force also supports efforts to upgrade technology infrastructure and training at minority serving institutions.

SECURING AMERICA’S INTELLECTUAL TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENTS

- **Safeguarding Copyright in the Digital Age**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

The Task Force will encourage private-sector solutions to avoid the government selecting winners and losers or backing specific technology solutions or mechanisms to protect copyrighted works from piracy. The HTTF also encourages aggressive enforcement of existing laws and the legitimate, legal digital distribution of copyrighted works.

- **Protecting Cyber Security and Combating Terrorism**

108th Congress Policy Agenda:

The HTTF supports efforts that give law enforcement, U.S. agencies and private industry the tools necessary to secure the Internet against foreign and domestic network attacks. The Task Force will work to bolster cooperation among international governments, federal agencies and the private sector in this area.



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SECURING AMERICA'S INTELLECTUAL TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENTS (CONT.)

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- **Modernizing the Military** ~ New for 2003

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

The HTTF supports a modern, professional military that is responsive, flexible and has access to the required technology for any of today's contingencies. The Task Force supports efforts to provide cutting-edge technology infrastructure to the most capable military in the world.

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- **Securing the Homeland** ~ New for 2003

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

Security of the Homeland is a basic function of modern life. The Task Force supports ensuring that those charged with Homeland Security have the most modern, failsafe technology available to protect and serve our citizens. The Task Force will remain at the forefront in International cyber-security issues, understanding the complexities and rapidly changing standards.

IMPROVING TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITIES: BROADBAND AND SPECTRUM

- **Accelerating Broadband Deployment to All Americans**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

High speed Internet access is the tool that will drive innovation and the economy of the 21st Century. The Task Force supports efforts to expedite the deployment of broadband networks, creating robust connections across multiple platforms into the home and maintaining a robust broadband market.

- **Maximizing Spectrum Use**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

Wireless technologies are pivotal in maintaining America's growth and world dominance in e-commerce, are crucial to deploying technology in rural America, and require increased availability and more logical allocation of spectrum. The Task Force supports efforts to ensure robust competition in the spectrum marketplace as well as efforts to speed the transition to multiple digital devices without compromising user access.

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THE CHANGING BOUNDARIES OF LAW: PRIVACY AND REFORM

- **Protecting Privacy and E-Commerce**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

Market-based solutions should lead the way in protecting individual privacy, and such solutions should be fair to both online and offline entities. While the Task Force acknowledges and recognizes a possible need for future federal legislation to protect against identity theft and theft of personal financial and medical information, the Task Force believes that the private sector should lead the way in helping protect individual privacy.

- **Reforming Class Action Lawsuits**

108th Congress HTTF Policy Agenda:

Reformation of class actions needs to be at the forefront of a modern legal framework as today's technology companies are subject to frivolous class actions that stifle research and development. The Task Force supports efforts that will reduce frivolous lawsuits that burden the judicial system.